IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.
"EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE" HBCU SCHOLARSHIP
INFORMATION SHEET

OVERVIEW

The "Empowering Excellence" Scholarship, sponsored by Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc., is established to support and encourage promising African American students who are pursuing higher education at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). This scholarship seeks to recognize students who demonstrate a strong commitment to academic achievement, leadership, community service, and personal growth.

A $2,000 award will be granted to five recipients annually, one from each of the Sorority's regions, total $10,000. All scholarship funds will be disbursed directly to the recipient's accredited HBCU to be applied toward tuition, fees, or other educational expenses, in accordance with institutional policies.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This scholarship is available through submission from local chapters only. A chapter may submit **only one** applicant for this scholarship. Sponsoring chapters must submit electronically applications to the National President-Elect by **February 14**. Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements to apply for the "Empowering Excellence" HBCU Scholarship.

- Be a **male or female undergraduate currently** enrolled full-time at a Historically Black College or University (HBCU).
- Have completed a minimum of 16 credit hours of study at the time of application.
- Hold a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or 2.0 on a 3.0 scale.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

The Application Packet **must** include the following:

- Scholarship Registration Form signed by applicant and parent/legal guardian **if under the age of 18.**
- Student Application signed by applicant and parent/legal guardian **if under the age of 18.**
- Provide an official current/certified transcript of academic program.
- Two letters of recommendation
- A 500-650 word essay using one of the two prompts provided.
- Supporting Documentation
- Provide a business/professional photograph.

IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.
"EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE" HBCU SCHOLARSHIP
CONSENT FORM

Applicant's Name_____

Applicant's Address _____

City _____State _____Zip_____

College Attending _____ Location _____

Sponsoring Chapter Gamma Delta _____ Region Eastern _____

Chapter President Cynthia Rollins _____ Email Address crollinsgdc@gmail.com _____

Chapter Scholarship Chair Kenya Allamby _____ Email Address ladyicon.iota@gmail.com _____

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT SHOULD READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING: I understand that:

- I must attend an HBCU seeking an undergraduate degree.
- If I am the selected scholarship recipient, all awarded funds are sent to the HBCU I am attending and applied directly to my tuition after I have submitted the official documents of my enrollment, along with a schedule of my classes.
- The scholarship is a one-time award.
- I must provide a business/professional photograph.
- Any questions I have regarding the contest may be answered by the Chapter sponsoring me.
- I have read the above items and understand the requirements.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature _____ Date_____

IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.
"EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE" HBCU SCHOLARSHIP
STUDENT APPLICATION

PERSONAL DATA

Applicant's Name _____

Applicant's Address _____

City _____Zip_____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

HBCU Attending _____

Major/Area of Study _____

Classification (Sophomore, Junior, etc.) _____ Cumulative GPA _____

LEADERSHIP, SERVICE, AND ACTIVITIES

Submit documentation for all activities. Examples: Photos of applicant engaged in service or leadership activities, event programs listing their role, or news coverage. **NOTE: Only include 4-5 sources of documentation.**

Organization	Role/Title	Dates of Participation	Key Contributions/Projects

HONORS AND AWARDS

Submit documentation for all honors/awards. Examples: Photos of applicant receiving the honor/award, event programs listing their name, or news coverage. **NOTE: Only include 4-5 sources of documentation.**

Honor/Award	Year/Organization

ESSAY

Submit one essay (500–650 words). Choose one prompt below. (Typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, 1-inch margins; include your full name and essay prompt in the header. Submit as PDF or Word.)

- Describe a specific moment when you identified a need in your community and took action. What did you do, what obstacles did you face, and what did you learn about leadership from that experience?
- Describe a time you failed at something that mattered to you. How did you respond, and how has that experience shaped the leader you are becoming?

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation from a **professor, coach, or mentor**.

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____State _____Zip_____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Recommendation from personal reference (community leader, religious leader, or employer).

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____State _____Zip_____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

AFFILIATION STATUS

☐ Member of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc.

☐ Former Future Iota Leader

☐ Not Applicable

Submit documentation of affiliation. Examples: Photos of applicant engaged in service or leadership activities, membership certificate or letter from FIL Chair. **NOTE: Only include 4-5 sources of documentation.**

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Submit all required documents by email to the sponsoring chapter by the set deadline.

SELECTION & NOTIFICATION

Applications are evaluated for academic merit, leadership, service, essay quality, and alignment with Iota Phi Lambda Sorority's mission. Finalists **may be** invited to a brief virtual interview. The scholarship recipients will be officially notified in May by the National President-Elect.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

☐ Scholarship Registration Form, signed

☐ Student Application, signed

☐ Current official/certified transcript

☐ Letters (2) of recommendation

☐ Essay

☐ Documentation that supports activities, honors, awards, and/or affiliation

☐ Business/professional photograph

DISCLOSURE

The information provided in this form will be disclosed only to Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. as required to determine your eligibility for an award. All the information will be properly disposed of according to the Record Retention/Disposition Policy of Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. after award of the scholarship has been made.

I hereby certify that all information provided is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information may disqualify me from consideration. I grant Iota Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. permission to publish my name, picture, and image in connection with the promotion of scholarship.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.

"EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE" HBCU SCHOLARSHIP

SCORING RUBRIC

Applicant's Name_____

Sponsoring Chapter _____ Region _____

_____

Category	High Points	Medium Points	Low Points	Applicant's Score
GPA **4.0/3.0 GPA System** • 3.5 – 4.0/2.75 - 3.0 • 3.0 – 3.49/2.5 – 2.74 • 2.5 – 2.99/2.0 – 2.49	20	15	10	
Leadership, Service & Activities	25	15	5	
Honors & Awards	10	5	0	
Essay **(Choose 1 Prompt)**	35	20	0–10	
Recommenders' Input	10	5	0	
Bonus – Iota Phi Lambda Affiliation **(Member or Former Future Iota Leader)**	25	15	0	
Total Maximum Score	**125**			
			Applicant's Score	

***See Reviewer's Guide for category and point details.**

IOTA PHI LAMBDA SORORITY, INC.
"EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE" HBCU SCHOLARSHIP
REVIEWER'S GUIDE

The purpose of this guide is to ensure fairness, consistency, and transparency in evaluating applicants. Each category must be scored according to the High, Medium, or Low descriptors in the rubric table.

GPA (20 points) 4.0/3.0 GPA System

- High (20 pts): 3.5 – 4.0/2.75 - 3.0
- Medium (15 pts): 3.5 – 4.0/2.75 - 3.0
- Low (10 pts): 2.5 – 2.99/2.0 – 2.49

Leadership, Service & Activities Documentation (25 points)

- High (25 pts): Multiple activities + at least one leadership role.
- Medium (15 pts): Active participation but no leadership role.
- Low (5 pts): Minimal or no activity involvement.

Honors & Awards Documentation (10 points)

- High (10 pts): Multiple or major awards/recognitions.
- Medium (5 pts): One honor/award listed.
- Low (0 pts): None listed.

Essay (35 points)

- High (35 POINTS): Strong essay; thoughtful, well-organized, within word count, strong alignment with values.
- Medium (20 POINTS): Adequate essay; meets length, but limited depth/reflection.
- Low (0–10 POINTS): Weak essay; under word count, lacks focus, or poorly written.

Recommenders' Input (10 points)

- High (10 POINTS): Strong, detailed endorsement of applicant's character and leadership.
- Medium (5 POINTS): General or brief endorsement.
- Low (0 POINTS): Missing recommendation.

Bonus: Iota Phi Lambda Affiliation (25 points)

- High (25 POINTS): Current Iota Phi Lambda member. Provide verification.
- Medium (15 POINTS): Former Future Iota Leader. Membership certificate or letter from chapter FIL Chair.
- Low (0 POINTS): No affiliation.

*** Final Score: 125 Points Maximum ***Deadline February 14th

08/2026